

THE

REHEARSAL.

1. Our Laws and Parliaments struck at through the sides of the Clergy.
2. Acts of Parliament for Passive Obedience and Jure Divino.
3. Of the Short Declaration being taken away since the Revolution.
4. Of the Homilies Enjoyn'd by Act of Parliament.
5. It had been Better for England, if they had always Adher'd to Passive Obedience.
6. The Clergy must be Acquitted, or our Parliaments Condemn'd.
7. Our Parliaments follow the Scriptures in Passive Obedience.
8. No Parliament ever Enacted the Principle of Resistance. All sorts, Whiggs and Heathens, own Jure Divino.
9. Except the Rights, which makes God to be Jure Humano.

WEDNESDAY, March 10. 1707.

(1.) Country-man. **Y**OUR last, Master, has shew'd that all the Odium laid upon the Clergy, by Mr. Review and others, for Preaching up Jure Divino and Passive Obedience, lies not wholly at their Door, but that our Parliaments are also involv'd in the same, And that they are indeed struck at, and all our Laws, through the sides of the Clergy.

(2.) Rehearsal. I gave no Proofs then, but now I will, lest they shou'd Deny it, and to Justify what I have said, and that you may have an Answer ready, if they shou'd Question the Truth of it. Let them then Look into the Statute 16. Rich. 2. c. 5. And there they will find it Asserted, that the Power of the Crown is Deriv'd from God alone, and Immediately Subject to none but God. And is in no Earthly Subjection.

Let them see 24. Hen. viii. c. 12. Where the Parliament acknowledges his Majesty to be their One Supreme Head and King. And that to him as such belongs, The Final Determination, to all Manner of Folk, Resiants or Subjects within this his Realm, in all Causes, Matters, Debates and Contentions.

Then let them look into 1. Eliz. c. 3. and 1. Jac. c. 1. Where the Right of the Succession of the Crown by Proximity of Blood is call'd the Law of God as well as of Man.

Let them then Consider 12. Car. 2. c. 30. Where it is Declar'd, That by the undoubted Fundamental Laws of this Kingdom, neither the Peers of the Realm, nor the Commons, nor both together in Parliament, nor the People, either Collectively or Representatively, nor any other

Persons whatsoever, ever had, hath, or ought to have, any Coercive power over the Persons of the Kings of this Realm.

And 13. Car. 2. c. 1. It is Declar'd, that ther is no Legislative Authority in the Parliament without the King.

And 13. Car. 2. c. 6. The Power of the Sword is Declar'd to be wholly and solely in the King, and that the Parliament cannot Raise any War, either Offensive or Defensive, against his Majesty, his Heirs or Lawful Successors.

And 14. Car. 2. in the Act for Uniformity (which is particularly Excepted not to be Repealable by the Regency) all the Clergy of England, as well as Masters, or Heads of Houses, Fellows, and Tutors in Colleges, and even School-Masters, &c. are oblig'd to Subscribe, That it is not Lawful upon any Pretence whatsoever to take Arms against the King, and that they do Abhor that Traiterous Position of taking Arms by his Authority against his Person, or against those that are Commissionated by him.

Country-m. But this last is taken away by an Act since the Revolution.

(3.) Rehearsal. The Obligation of Subscribing it, and the Penalty for not doing it is Superseded by that Act. But ther is nothing said against the Truth of the Doctrin therein Contain'd. As the Obligation for Renouncing the Covenant in the same Act of Uniformity was Enjoyn'd but for a Time, which do's not Imply that men might own the Covenant afterwards.

But all the former Acts of Parliament I have Nam'd (and ther are many more) stand yet Un-Repeal'd, and are the Law of the Land to us at this Day.

But

But yet again, was it any Crime in the Clergy to Subscribe the said Declaration of its not being Lawful, &c. while it was Enjoin'd by Parliament, and under the Penalty of an *Ipo Facto Deprivation*? And if they might Subscribe it, why might they not Preach it? Was it They who *Berry'd* the King by Preaching it, and was the Parliament perfectly *Innocent* which Enjoin'd it? Had not the King as much Reason to Trust to an *Act of Parliament* for *Passive Obedience*, as to a *Sermon*, or Even to the *Book of Canons*?

(4.) Did ever any Clergy-Man in the Church of England Preach up *Jure Divino* and *Passive Obedience* more than our *Book of Homilies*? And are not all our Clergy to this Day Oblig'd by *Act of Parliament* to Subscribe the said *Book*? And are not the most *Passive Obedience-Homilies* in the whole *Book* those against Rebellion, particularly Order'd to be Read on the 30th of January, and the 5th of November, even as the *Offices* for these *Days* are Regulated since the *Revolution*? And the *Preachers* are Order'd to Compose their *Sermons* on these *Days*, pursuant to these *Homilies*. And have they not done so in many very Good *Sermons*, we have Printed, which were Preach'd before the the Queen, and before both *Houses of Parliament* on these *Days*, particularly on the 30th January? And have they been *Reprov'd*, nay have they not Receiv'd *Thanks* for so doing, and their *Sermons* Order'd to be *Printed*, for the Instruction of the People in these *Doctrines*?

(5.) Yet Mr. *De Foe* and other their Enemies make Bold to lay all the *Miseries* of the Nation, as well what they have *Suffer'd*, as what is present, and what they have in Prospect to *Suffer* yet more, all is laid upon the *Clergy*, and their *Preaching* this *Doctrine*. To which if the *People of England* had Constantly Adher'd, we may Reasonably say, many *Evils* had been Prevented, which have Cost *England* much Blood and Treasure.

(6.) *Country-m.* Be that as it will, yet it is Plain that all the Terrible Charges laid upon the *Clergy* for this, their being made *Scarlet Traitors*, as *Black as Hell*, and other *Moderate Epithets* bestow'd on them by the *Review*, do all Rebound directly upon our *Laws* and *Parliaments*, which have *Enacted* these *Doctrines*, and Requir'd the *Clergy* both to *Subscribe* and *Preach* them, Under Severe Penalties. And by their making it *Deprivation*, it is Plain they Meant to have No other *Clergy* but who shou'd Preach up these *Doctrines* of *Passive Obedience* and *Jure Divino*.

So that either the *Clergy* must be Acquitted of this Charge, or else all our *Laws* and *Parliaments* must to *Topher* with them according to Mr. *Review*! To whom I

wou'd Offer my Advice, if he wou'd not take it amiss: That hereafter before he Throws a Stone, he shou'd Consider where it may Light. For I Suppose he did not Intend to Cut down all our *Laws* and *Constitution*, and the Authority of *Parliaments*; at a Blow, when he gave himself Liberty to make this *Invective* against the *Clergy* who are his *Aversion*.

(7.) *Rehears.* The same *Doctrines* of *Jure Divino* and *Passive Obedience* are Taught in the *Holy Scriptures* as Expressly as in our *Laws*. Which I have shew'd Abundantly in the first *Volume*. Our *Laws* learn'd them from the *Scriptures*, and Vouch'd them as such to be according to the *Law of God*, as well as of *Man*.

(8.) And no *English Parliament*, no not any so Call'd in the Times of *Rebellion* and *Usurpation*, ever yet Decreed the *Doctrine* of *Resistance*, or Offer'd to Repeal those *Laws* I have Cited, but kept the Subjects Strictly under *Passive Obedience*; and the Greatest *Usurpers* pleaded *Jure Divino* too, and Apply'd it to themselves some How or Other! They plac'd it in the *Voice* of the *People*, that is, of those of their own Side! The very *Heathens* had Recourse to it, and Deify'd their *Kings*, or Fancy'd them Begot by some *God* or other, as I have shew'd before. So that what All agree in must be *True*. So Necessary is this *Doctrine*, that no *Government* of what fort soever can stand without it. They either *Have* it, or must Pretend to it.

(9.) *Country-m.* I hope you will except the *Book of the Rights*. This has Avoided all these Difficulties, and made the *Authority of God Himself* *Dependant* upon the *People*! And instead of their Pleading *Jure Divino*, has made Him plead *Jure Humano*!

Rehears. This is a *New Discovery*! It is a *Finesse* that exceeds all *Heathen Wit*, as far as our *Whiggs* Exceed the *Heathen*! And the *Indictment* against our *Clergy* is, That they are so *Dull* they cannot Come up to it! They make *Kings* the *Anointed of God*, but they understand not how *God* is the *Anointed of the People*! And *Priests* of all *Religions* are the *Same* in this, they are All for the *Authority of God*, they All pretend to be *Priests of God*. But we have a *Sett* coming up will be the *Priests of the People*! And of *God* under *Them*.

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